

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 14, 2003

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 9**

**Introduced by Senators Knight, Ashburn, and Morrow**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Harman ~~and Pleseia~~, Plescia, Aghazarian, Bates, Benoit, Berg, Bogh, Campbell, Canciamilla, Chan, Chavez, Chu, Cogdill, Cohn, Corbett, Cox, Daucher, Dutra, Dutton, Dymally, Firebaugh, Frommer, Garcia, Goldberg, Hancock, Haynes, Jerome Horton, Houston, Jackson, Keene, La Malfa, Laird, Leno, Leslie, Levine, Longville, Lowenthal, Maddox, Maldonado, Matthews, Maze, McCarthy, Mountjoy, Mullin, Nakanishi, Nakano, Nation, Negrete McLeod, Nunez, Pacheco, Parra, Pavley, Reyes, Richman, Runner, Salinas, Samuelian, Simitian, Steinberg, Strickland, Vargas, Wolk, and Yee)

February 5, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9—Relative to the Space Shuttle Columbia.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 9, as amended, Knight. Space Shuttle Columbia.

This measure would express the Legislature's most profound, heartfelt condolences to the families of Columbia's crew and its gratitude to the crew and their families and all past, current, and future astronauts for their bravery and selfless sacrifice for the benefit of humankind. It would also affirm the Legislature's support for our nation's continued aggressive world leadership in space exploration with full confidence that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will discover and remedy the causes of Columbia's loss and the need to incorporate these modern technologies into our new generation of space vehicles.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States leads the world in pursuit of the  
2 highly risky, but crucial endeavor of space exploration, and the  
3 future benefits of space exploration will likely be vital to the  
4 continued existence, health, and prosperity of the human race; and

5 WHEREAS, The Columbia, the first member of the United  
6 States' fleet of space shuttles, all of which were built in California,  
7 and her heroic crew of seven astronauts were tragically lost as she  
8 reentered Earth's atmosphere on February 1, 2003; and

9 WHEREAS, Columbia's final launch into space was the  
10 shuttle's 28th venture into the hostile environment of space to  
11 further the knowledge of mankind and create opportunities for  
12 future generations; and

13 WHEREAS, The brave, brilliant men and women who serve  
14 onboard space flight vehicles as pilots and scientists rank among  
15 the greatest explorers in history, carrying on the proud tradition of  
16 Ferdinand Magellan, Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Robert  
17 La Salle, and Lewis and Clark; and

18 WHEREAS, The crew of Columbia's final flight left behind not  
19 only a valuable body of scientific work, but spouses, children,  
20 parents, siblings, and other relatives, and many close friends; now,  
21 therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature expresses its most  
24 profound, heartfelt condolences to the families of Mission  
25 Commander Rick D. Husband, Pilot William C. McCool, Payload  
26 Commander Michael P. Anderson, Mission Specialist David M.  
27 Brown, Mission Specialist Kalpana Chawla, Mission Specialist  
28 Laurel Blair Salton Clark, and Mission Specialist Ilan Ramon; and  
29 be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Legislature formally expresses its gratitude  
31 to Columbia's crew and their families, and also all past, current,  
32 and future astronauts for their bravery and selfless sacrifice for the  
33 benefit of humankind; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Legislature affirms its support for our  
35 nation's continued aggressive world leadership in space  
36 exploration, with full confidence that the National Aeronautics  
37 and Space Administration will discover and remedy the causes of  
38 Columbia's loss, without overlooking the need for a new

1 generation of space vehicles that incorporate more modern  
2 technologies; and be it further  
3 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
4 this resolution to the families of the Columbia's crew, to the  
5 President and Congress of the United States, and to the author for  
6 appropriate distribution.

